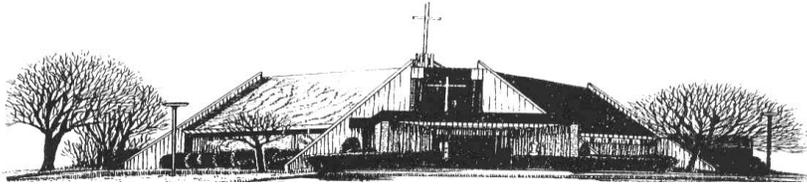


Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 16, 2020
Celebrate Black History Month
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church



Josephite Fathers and Brothers
1600 Morris Road, SE Washington, DC 20020
Phone: 202-678-4999 Fax 202-610-3189
Emergency Telephone Number: 409-963-5633

Web Site: www.olphsedc.com

Email: info@olphsedc.com

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ, Pastor

Deacons: Ira Chase, Thomas Jones, and Timothy Tilghman

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Bernice Waller

Director of Religious Education: Ms. Cynthia Battle
Phone: 202-678-4999 Email: cdbattle@yahoo.com
Finance Council Chair: Mrs. Bonita Boulware
Phone 301-758-3768 Email: bhboul@aol.com

Pastoral Council Chair: Ms. Aletcia Whren
Phone 202-246-1960 Email: aletciawhren@gmail.com
Ministers of Music: Mr. Rawn Harbor,
Mr. Dehrric Richburg, Mr. George Stewart,
Ms. Debra Tidwell, Ms. Melanie Cobb

Mass Schedule

4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass
8:00 am and 11:00 am Sunday Masses
7:00 am Weekday Masses followed by Morning Prayer

Confessions

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena/Communion Service

Mondays at 7:30 pm (All are welcome)

Novena to St. Joseph

Wednesdays after 7:00 am Mass

The Rosary

Recited at 4:00 pm on Saturday and 7:30 am and 10:30 am on Sunday.

BULLETIN ITEMS/INSERTS:

(ALL MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PASTOR)

Email to Doris Savoy: dsavoy0642@aol.com or call 202-610-3751 by **MONDAY** of the week prior to publication.

Notify Doris Savoy of any printed flyers you want in the bulletin.
They must be received by Thursday morning.

Birthdays/Anniversaries submit two weeks before the 1st of the month in which the event falls.

Bereavement Newsletter (published for the first of each month): items are due **two weeks prior** to publication.

Sunday School

October-June

Sacraments

Baptism: Is celebrated periodically, but not during Lent. For information on Parent Information Sessions, contact the rectory for required attendance. Adults who desire Baptism receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil, following a period of participation in *the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*. Call 202-678-4999.

Confirmation: Available to our youth, thirteen years of age or older, through the religious education process with activities involving parents and sponsors. Adults are prepared through the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

First Communion: Preparation through the Sunday School Classes.

Funerals: Please contact the priest before confirming any arrangements with your funeral home.

Matrimony: Couples thinking about marriage should contact the parish priest prior to engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. The church desires to help couples prepare a good foundation for a lifelong commitment to this sacred marriage vocation.

NEWCOMERS & VISITORS: WELCOME TO "THE CHURCH ON THE HILL"!

*Thank you for worshipping with us today. May you be blessed with hope, joy, love and peace while here!
Should you want to join our parish family please contact a Minister of Hospitality, Priest,
or call the Rectory. Again, Welcome!*

OLPH History, Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values

Matthew 28:18-20:

The Commissioning of the Disciples

Then Jesus approached and said to them, *“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”*

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish has a rich, black cultural history. From its formation in 1920, the Black Catholics of Anacostia contributed to its development and growth through their sacrifices of time, talent, skills and funds to provide a parish plant of their own. Thus, the uniqueness of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish places it in a leadership position to interact with other Black and non-black parishes in utilizing the gifts of Black spirituality through music, dance, education, and special action.

MISSION STATEMENT: We, the people, of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, therefore, acknowledge that our Pastoral Mission is to **proclaim** Christ and **teach** the “Good News”, to **worship** and **bear witness** in the community, to **love and serve** as Jesus commanded, and to **preserve and share** our rich Black heritage.

VISION STATEMENT: *“A Roman Catholic church that is actively visible in the Community, shares its spirituality through fellowship, and is committed to serving God.”*

CORE VALUES

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: We will always speak the truth, respect the opinions and roles of all parishioners, and value each person, always maintaining Christian charity in all of our actions.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: We will seek to increase the understanding of our Catholic faith and expand our spiritual growth by participating in and supporting charitable and spiritual activities, in addition to attending Mass.

STEWARDSHIP: We will become involved in church activities and commit our time, talent and treasures.

INCLUSION: We will be open and inviting by extending ourselves to all by sharing in our parish life; thereby, reaffirming our vision of being actively visible in the community.

LEGACY: We will preserve our rich Black cultural history by respecting the past, continuing in service and faith in the present, and committing to the future of OLPH.



Weekday Mass from 7 to 7:30 AM followed by Morning Prayer.

Mass Intentions are available for the faithful departed and the needs of the living. In addition, every weekend one Mass is offered for the parishioners of our parish. **Call the office to request a Mass intention.** An offering of \$10 is suggested. If you cannot afford the \$10, offer what you can.

Memorials are noted by: † Indicates **Deceased**
BD means **Birth**day **AD** means **Anniversary of Death**
Saturday (15th)

4:30 pm †Marie Stoner, by Gloria A. Lessington
Sunday (16th)

8:00 am St. Joseph's Ladies' Auxiliary No.213, KOSJ
 11:00 am For the People of OLPH

Monday (17th)

7:00 am †AD Maud Reece, by daughter Joanne Scott
Tuesday (18th)

7:00 am †AD Rev. Arthur O'Leary, SSJ
Wednesday (19th)

7:00 am
Thursday (20th)

7:00 am
Friday (21st)

7:00 am
Saturday (22nd)

4:30 pm BD Gloria A. Lessington
Sunday (23rd)

8:00 am †AD Lenora Sullivan (22nd)
 by sister Lucie G. Shepherd
 11:00 am For the People



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time -- February 23, 2020

1st Reading: Leviticus 19:1–2, 17–18

Responsorial Psalm 103: 1–4,8,10, 12–13

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16–23

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:38–48



PLEASE NOTE: A FREE WILL OFFERING STILL MEANS A FINANCIAL DONATION, even for children.
February – Ministers of Hospitality

The Week Ahead

CH: Church CHG: Church Grounds REC: Rectory
1P/3P: First/Third Portable Building PR: Panorama
Room PRF(S)(G): Panorama Room Field (Stage) (Grounds)
WSG: Washington School for Girls

Sunday, February 16th:

Regular 8 and 11 am Masses
9:30 am Sunday School – WSG
1:00 pm Perpetual Glory Rehearsal – CH

Monday, February 17th:

PRESIDENT’S DAY – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, February 18th:

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study – WSG

Wednesday, February 19th:

6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice – CH

Thursday, February 20th:

10:30 am LOC Food Pantry – 3P
6:30 pm Baptismal Preparation Sessions – WSG

Friday, February 21st:

OLPH Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality’s trip to Harrington
Races & Slots (SOLD OUT)

Saturday, February 22nd:

**In celebration of Black History Month, feel free to
wear your African dress to all Masses this weekend**

8:30 am Voices of Praise Rehearsal – CH

Sunday, February 23rd:

Regular 8 and 11 am Masses
9:30 am Sunday School – WSG
1:00 pm Perpetual Glory Rehearsal – CH



Saturday, February 29, 2020

at 10:00 am for the

MINISTRY PRACTICUM

For **ALL** Liturgical Ministry Members:

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy

Communion, Knights and Ladies of the

Altar, Ministers of Hospitality, Ministry of

Sacred Motion, Music Ministry

(Ambassadors of Christ, Voices of Praise,

Perpetual Glory, Youth Choir).

but everyone is invited!!

Light lunch will be served.



PANORAMA ROOM BATHROOM RENNOVATIONS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 18TH PR WILL BE CLOSED.

NOTE: Our Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Bernice Waller’s tour of duty is Monday –Thursday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Please contact her during these business hours.

Archdiocese of Washington 2020 Annual Appeal “Hearts Filled With Hope”

Archbishop Gregory has chosen the theme *Hearts Filled With Hope*. *In the midst of these turbulent waters as a Church, we are reminded of Jesus’s hand that is always extended forth to pull us from depths and bring us closer to Him.*

This weekend is COMMITMENT WEEKEND for the 2020 Annual Appeal.

Pledge Envelopes are available today. Please acknowledge God’s blessing in your life with a generous commitment in making your pledge. No gift is too small and will support more than 60 ministries and programs benefitting countless women, men, children and families in the Church of Washington, including within our own parish and local community. As in every year, 100% of your contribution to the Annual Appeal will be designated to the ministries and programs supported by the Appeal. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response. On behalf of all who are touched by your generous heart of hope, thank you for this commitment.

Study ^{the} Bible with us

Tuesday Night Bible Study studying the Book of Leviticus at 7:00 pm in the WSG. All are welcome.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN (INFANT – 5 YEARS OLD)



Parents, Godparents and Christian Witnesses must attend. For more information contact the rectory. Meetings are held in the WSG at 6:30 pm on Thursdays.

ATTENTION:

Altar Servers (KOTA), Lectors, Ministers of Hospitality and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

If you are unable to fulfill your ministry obligation please remember to get a substitute. If it is your time to serve, please arrive timely to avoid last minute substitutions. Many thanks to those who already do this, it is very helpful.

ALERT: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, although we are not serving on the Altar, we are still required to set up and clear the Credence Table after all Masses.

Quote for the Week

"Today is ours to begin over again. The vision that has become dim can once again begin to burn brightly in our lives."

tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving

February 9, 2020

Attendance: 231 Offertory: \$7,432.00
Operating Expenses: \$15,000.00

Flowers for the Altars

Reminder Lent Season is coming soon and we do not place flowers on the Altar nor the Tabernacle Area.

SPIRITUALITY

Family Rules and God's Law of Love

Families have rules. Without rules, family life would be chaos. As a family, brainstorm a list of rules that you are all called to follow in your home in order for you all to get along together. Think about rules for play time, rules for eating, rules for how to speak to one another, rules for going out with friends, and so on. Emphasize that families follow rules as a way of showing love and respect for one another. Explain that in this

Sunday's Gospel, Jesus talks about following the Law. Say: ***God's Law of love can be thought of as rules that we are to follow in order to show our love and respect for one***

another. Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 5:17–37. Talk specifically with one another about how anger is to be dealt with in your family. Conclude by praying for the grace to overcome anger and to show respect for one another as a family by following God's Law of love.

PREPARING FOR MASS: Friendly Reminder!

We should read the Sunday Scriptures during the week before we come to Church. We should read them three times: **Once** for the head, **Once** for the heart, **Once** for the Holy Spirit to speak to our head and heart. Thus when we come to worship, we hear the **Word Proclaimed and Preached**. So is this your practice? Is it part of your spirituality as a Catholic believer in the Lord Jesus? Why not make it a family thing to do!

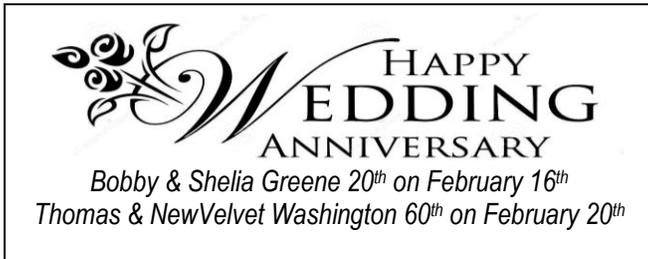
*A Very Special
"Thank You!"*

To everyone who responded to the request and who stepped up and assisted the LOC in the Food Pantry, your services were greatly appreciated and needed. Again, thank you.

**Thank You
so much!**

God Provides: *"I choose not to share my troubles, nor the scars down deep inside. But I've found through all adversity, God always provides. I would like to thank the OLPH parishioners for all your prayers, cards and phone calls doing my time of healing. May God bless you all!"*

Hawkins Family: Michael, Sandra, Michelle, Morgan and John



Marriage Encounter Weekend: *"Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."* Learn the tools of forgiveness and healing on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends on February 28 – March 1, 2020. The weekend is in College Park, MD. Give your marriage a Valentine's gift you won't forget! Apply on moments4marriage.org. Seats are still available. Please apply as soon as possible. For more information leave a message at 301-541-7007.

URGENT REMINDER:
When names **can be removed** from any of the sick listings, please contact Doris Savoy or notify the Rectory.

**Special Prayers
For Those In Need**

ENTERING THE HOSPITAL? Parishioners planning to enter the hospital are encouraged to receive the **Sacrament of the Sick** prior to admission. Because of privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify parishes of a parishioner's stay. **Please notify the Rectory** of the name of person, hospital and room number, also **when the person returns home.**

Parishioners who are sick or homebound and unable to attend Mass on Sunday may request to receive the Eucharist. Even if you are ill for a short period of time you are most welcome to receive a home visit. **Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.**

Happy Birthday!
FEBRUARY

- 16th Leia Conrad
- 17th Joseph Thomas
- 18th Pearl Baylor Jasmine Handon
- 21st Kayla Carter Betty Durr Bill Shelton
- 22nd Gloria A. Lessington
- 23rd Kayona Dade
- 25th Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ
- 26th Braxton Wheeler
- 27th Denise Durham
- 28th Sydney Wimbish
- 29th Most Rev. John H. Ricard, SSJ

Remember and Pray for our Homebound Members as well as those in *Hospitals and/or **Nursing/Rehab Facilities:

**Sonnie Boulware, John Brown, Lorraine Brown, **Margaret Edwardina Coleman, Shelia Conway, Agnes Dua, **Thomas "Phil" Ford, **Cordella Gough, Elease Gravett, Jerome Hall, Alfred Harris, **Michael Holley, Ruth Holt, Hilda Kearney, **Geraldine Lee, Fred Lewis, Antoinette Reese, and Kobe Williams.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

There is nothing too great or too small for prayer!!

Carolyn Alston, Dawnielle Battle, Cynthia Battle, Michael Battle, Herb Baylor, Alice Bethea, Leora Bentley, Vincent Blalock, Carolyn Brown, Hilda Brown, Millicent Brown, Demarquis Carter, Terneara Carter, Patricia Chapman, Judy Chase, Margo Cooke, Patricia Cooke, Minnie Cooper, Judith Dean, Phyllis Delaney, Celina Dixon, *Sterling Doleman, George Dugue', Geraldine Edmonds (sister Louis Lloyd), Beverly Ford, Alyce (Micky) Foster, Toni Gaines, Barbara Glover, Edward Glover, Betty Graham, Calestard Gravett, Marjorie Hammitt, Roberta Harrod-Brooks, Agnes Maxine Hart, John Hawkins, Sr., Roslyn Holmes, Dorita Hughes (mother of Tenearea Carter), Connie Jackson (sister James Jackson), James Jackson, Joan Jackson, Sharon Jackson-Taylor, Bettie Johnson, Damon Johnson, Janell Johnson, *Michael Johnson, Vincent Jordan, Betty Lawson, Dianna Ledbetter, Edith Lee, Denise Leftwich, Charlotte Lewis, Marie Lucas, Angela Lyles, Crystal Martin, Katalina Masembwa, Vincent Matthews, Justine Middleton, Barbara Minnick, Danielle Mitchell, Elizabeth Moeller, Henrietta Moody, Yvonne Moody, Gloria A. Moore, Gloria V. Moore, Warren Newton, Very Rev. William L. Norvel, SSSJ, Marcia Marlene Oliver, Nathan Owens, Marilyn Proctor, Rose Quander-Nevedon, Audrey Robinson, Willie Mae Robinson (grandmother Dyllan Robinson), Shirley Samuels, Julia Scott, Mary Sherard, Bernadette Smith, Charles Smith, Dolores (Polly) Smith, Clementine Smith-Easley, Vivian Staples, Tyrell Stewart, Mark C. Stone, Marianne Thompson, Reynaldo Thurston, Rose Thurston, Arthur Tilghman, Charles Tilghman, Shirley Toye, Daryl Tucker, Dawn Washington, Errin Washington, Martina Washington, NewVelvet Washington, Thomas Washington, Bernadette Waters, Jean Westray, Carolyn Wheeler, Francis Wheeler, Earline Wilkinson, Jacob Williams (husband of Josephine Williams), Katina Williams-Thomas. *Military deployed to Poland.

UPCOMING Events

COME AND SEE

The Diaconate Formation Office is holding "Come and See" meetings for men to learn more about the permanent diaconate and the formation program, which will be conducting interviews for the Ordination Class of 2025. Men of prayer with a heart for service to the Church and the community, between the ages of 30 to 60 who are feeling called to learn more about deacons are encouraged to attend on Wednesday, March 4, 7-9 PM at the Church of the Incarnation, 880 Eastern Avenue N.E. Washington DC 20019. Men inquiring who are married are strongly encouraged to bring their wife to the "Come and See" meeting. Deacons and their wives will be at these meetings to answer questions and share their experiences. For more information, please visit the diaconate formation webpage on the Archdiocese of Washington website.

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COFFEE WITH A COP

Tuesday, March 10 from 11 am to 12:30 pm Hosted by: Fort Stanton Recreation Center 1812 Erie Street, SE, Washington, DC 20020 Welcoming all 7D seniors to join the conversation and enjoy a cup of coffee with your local officers! For more information contact Carolyn Davis, 7D Community Outreach Coordinator at 202-489-9533 or email her at CarolynL.Smith@DC.gov.

CLUB MEMORY CARE PARTNER SUPPORT GROUP

Are you caring for a family member or friend who is experiencing memory loss? Are you feeling anxious, stressed or overwhelmed? Join us for a free, informal support group. Light refreshments will be provided. One Program, Two Locations – same time 6:30-8:00 pm: 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at Anacostia Neighborhood Library, Meeting Room 2, 1800 Good Hope Road, SE Contact: Shruti Goel at 202-660-5664

2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at Shiloh Baptist Church, Family Life Center, 1510 9th Street, NW

Contact: Sharon Sellers at 202-660-6957

Advance registration required!

What to expect:

- A sense of community
- Information and support
- Coping skills
- Stress reduction and self care techniques

National African American History Month Overview

National African American History Month in February celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history.

National African American History Month had its origins in 1915 when historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. This organization is now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History ("ASALH"). Through this organization Dr. Woodson initiated the first Negro History Week in February 1926. Dr. Woodson selected the week in February that included the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two key figures in the history of African Americans.

In 1975, President Ford issued a Message on the Observance of Black History Week urging all Americans to "recognize the important contribution made to our nation's life and culture by black citizens." In 1976 this commemoration of black history in the United States was expanded by ASALH to Black History Month, also known as African American History Month, and President Ford issued the first Message on the Observance of Black History Month that year. In subsequent years, Presidents Carter and Reagan continued to issue Messages honoring African American History Month.

In 1986 Congress passed Public Law 99-244 (PDF, 142KB) which designated February 1986 as "National Black (Afro-American) History Month." This law noted that February 1, 1986 would "mark the beginning of the sixtieth annual public and private salute to Black History." The law further called upon to President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe February 1986 as Black History Month with the appropriate ceremonies and activities. President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 5443 which proclaimed that "the foremost purpose of Black History Month is to make all Americans aware of this struggle for freedom and equal opportunity." This proclamation stated further that this month was a time "to celebrate the many achievements of African Americans in every field from science and the arts to politics and religion."

In January 1996, President Clinton issued Presidential Proclamation 6863 for "National African American History Month." The proclamation emphasized the theme for that year, the achievements of black women from Sojourner Truth to Mary McLeod Bethune and Toni Morrison. In February 1996 the Senate passed Senate Resolution 229 commemorating Black History Month and the contributions of African American U.S. Senators.

Since 1996, Presidents have issued annual proclamations for National African American History Month. On February 1, 2011 President Obama issued a Proclamation reflecting on that year's theme of "African Americans and the Civil War" as we commemorate the sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War.

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School News

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2200 Callaway Street

Hillcrest Heights, MD 20748

Call 301-894-2323 for all inquiries

Please note that our OLPH Education Fund Assessment 5% of our Sunday Collection prescribed by the Archdiocese of Washington, goes directly to Holy Family School.

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February 16, 2020

It is sometimes said that the Ten Commandments are the heart of the Jewish-Christian tradition and that following the Ten Commandments is the way of faith. However, such a thought is certainly wrong. The Ten Commandments are the minimal requirements for both Christians and Jews. Anyone who does not obey the Ten Commandments would not only fail as a believer, but as a human being. All people must try to avoid murder, theft, lying, and adultery if any human society is to survive. So, we as Christians are certainly called to obey the Ten Commandments, but we must also recognize that we are called to do more than simply follow these minimal requirements.

Jesus expects us to be people of generosity, kindness, forgiveness, and sacrifice. Those are qualities that cannot be decreed. The daycare center at a former parish was having trouble with parents picking up their children at the end of school day. The teachers, who had their own families, could not leave until the tardy parents arrived. So, they thought that they would solve the problem by instilling a regulation. Parents who were not on time to pick up their children would have to pay a fine. But this new regulation—rather than helping the matter—made things worse. Before the fine was set, parents were motivated to arrive on time out of kindness to the teachers' needs. But once the fine was established, the whole matter became an economic exchange. Many parents were more than happy to pay the fine if it added flexibility to their day. And they would leave their kids there even longer. But that's another story.

One could legislate a fine, but you cannot legislate kindness. A commandment can prescribe a punishment, but it cannot lead us to what is perfect and good. This is why Jesus speaks the way he does in today's gospel. He accepts the Ten Commandments and even names them: Thou shall not kill. But Jesus wants his followers to know that they are called to do more than just the minimal requirement. They are not only asked to avoid murder. They are asked to avoid anger, harsh judgment, and prejudice that fuel so much violence in our world. Developing these qualities cannot be legislated.

You and I are challenged by the words of Jesus. We cannot be content merely to follow minimal requirements of the Ten Commandments. We might be able to say, "You know, I never killed anyone." But do we bear anger in our heart against people who are different or who disagree with us or who have hurt us? Jesus is asking us to let that anger go. We might be able to say, "I never committed adultery." But what is our commitment to our marriage do we, covet others? Do we try to understand our spouse? Do we compromise? Are we willing to seek counseling when communication breaks down? These are the deeper values to which Jesus calls us. We might be able to say, "I never bore false witness against anyone." But do we speak out when someone's character is demeaned in our presence or engage in gossip? Do we remain silent when a family member or friend makes a decision that is disastrous to themselves or to others?

The Ten Commandments are part of Jesus' teaching, and we should obey them. But we should not only see them as minimal requirements. Jesus is calling us to something that no law can demand. He is calling us to live our lives with hearts filled with justice, mercy and love. To live out the Commandments in our daily lives not as laws, but as our preferred Christian behavior.